Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 4, lines 3-14 as follows:

The technology of the above-mentioned patent literature 1 can control the capture position with the overlapping portions taken into account depending on the magnification of an objective lens, but unnecessarily ~~computers~~ computes the images in the positions where no sample image exists. Thus, since the technology wastes time in capturing unnecessary portions, a long entire operating time is required although the optimum composite image can be obtained under the control of the capture position with the overlapping portion taken into account as described above.

Please amend the paragraph at page 5, line 1 to page 6, line 25 as follows:

The microscopic image capture apparatus according to the present invention ~~can be configured by including~~ includes: a low-magnification dividing device for dividing an entire area of a slide glass on a stage into field size sections of a predetermined low-powered objective lens; a transfer device for relatively transferring the slide glass ~~glass~~ on the stage in the direction perpendicular to the optical axis of the objective lens by relatively transferring the stage in the direction perpendicular to the axis of the objective lens; an image information obtaining device for obtaining image information for each field size section each time the entire area of the slide glass ~~glass~~ is sequentially transferred by the transfer device by the field size section of the low-powered objective lens; a high-magnification dividing device for dividing the image information for each field size section obtained by the image information obtaining device into high-magnification size sections corresponding to the magnification of a predetermined high-powered objective lens; a sample image discrimination device for checking whether or not there is sample image information in the image information for each

high-magnification size section into which the image information is divided by the high-magnification dividing device, discriminating the high-magnification size section having the image information containing the sample image information as a sample image inclusion section from the high-magnification size section having the image information containing no sample image information as a sample image exclusion section; a high-magnification image capture device for capturing a high-magnification image using the predetermined high-powered objective lens only for the high-magnification size section discriminated as the sample image inclusion section; and an image information generation device for generating high-magnification composite image information about a sample on the slide glass ~~glass~~ by generating the high-magnification image such that the relative position between the area of the high-magnification size section having the image information obtained from the image captured by the high-magnification image capture device and the area of the high-magnification size section not captured by the high-magnification image capture device can be correctly maintained.

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, line 1 to page 8, line 12 as follows:

The microscopic image capture apparatus according to the present invention ~~can also be configured by including~~ may alternatively include: a macro capture device for collectively capturing the entire area of a slide glass; a macro image information dividing device for dividing image information on the slide glass obtained by the capturing operation by the macro capture device into high-magnification size sections corresponding to the magnification of a predetermined high-powered objective lens; a sample image discrimination device for checking whether or not there is sample image information in the image information for each high-magnification size section into which the image information is divided by the macro image information dividing device, discriminating the high-magnification size section having the image information containing the sample image information as a sample image inclusion section from the high-magnification size section having the image information containing no sample image information as a sample image exclusion section; a high-magnification image capture device for capturing a

high-magnification image using the predetermined high-powered objective lens only for the high-magnification size section discriminated as the sample image inclusion section; and an image information generation device for generating high-magnification composite image information about a sample on the slide glass ~~glass~~ by generating the high-magnification image such that the relative position between the area of the high-magnification size section having the image information obtained from the image captured by the high-magnification image capture device and the area of the high-magnification size section not captured by the high-magnification image capture device can be correctly maintained.

Please amend the paragraph at page 11, lines 4-6 as follows:

The embodiments of the present invention are described below by referring to the attached drawings ~~drawing~~.

Please amend the paragraph at page 17, lines 13-25 as follows:

Described below is the control method of efficiently capturing a wide-angle field and high-precision microscope digital image according to the present invention using the microscopic image capture apparatus with the above-mentioned configuration. FIG. 2A shows only the slide glass 9 and the objective lens 10 on the stage 8 shown in FIG. 1. The sections shown by dividing the slide glass 9 shown in FIG. 2A (as originally filed) in the grid pattern are of the actual field size of the low-powered objective lens. Thus, in the present embodiment, the entire slide 9 is divided into the sections of an actual field size 29.

Please amend the paragraph at page 18, lines 1-13 as follows:

The dimensions of the actual field size 29 of the low-powered objective lens are obtained by the following equations.

$$Sw = W/(mob \times mTV) \quad ..... \quad (1)$$

$$Sh = H/(mob \times mTV) \quad ..... \quad (2)$$

where: mob indicates the magnification of the objective lens 10 (low-powered objective ~~lens;~~ lens); mTV indicates the projection magnification of the TV adapter by the intermediate-powered lens 12; W indicates the longer side of the capture device of the TV camera 13; H indicates its shorter side; Sw indicates the longer side of the actual field size 29; and Sh indicates its shorter side.

Please amend the paragraph at page 27, lines 5-8 as follows:

Then, the position (mi, ~~mj)~~ nj) to be checked is set according to the image information about a low-magnification actual field of the stage coordinate section (0, 0) ~ (m, n)(S303).

Please amend the paragraph at page 27, lines 9-17 as follows:

In this process, the position of the image information about a low-magnification actual field to be checked is sequentially set from the stage coordinate section (0, 0) to the stage coordinate section (m, n), to check the presence/absence of the image information about a sample image, and the initial value is (0, 0). In the stage coordinate section (mi, ~~mj)~~ nj) of the check position, mi = 0 ~ m, nj = 0 ~ n.

Please amend the paragraph at page 27, lines 18-22 as follows:

Then, the image information about a low-magnification actual field (mi, ~~mj)~~ nj) to be checked is divided into high-powered objective lens conversion pixel size sections (0, 0)~(Xmax, Ymax) ~~(304)~~ (S304).

Please amend the paragraph at page 28, lines 9-14 as follows:

Then, preparations are made to determine whether or not there is image information about a sample image in the high-powered objective lens conversion pixel size sections (0, 0) ~ (Xmax, Ymax) in the image information about a low-magnification actual field (mi, ~~mj)~~ nj) (S305).

Please amend the paragraph at page 28, lines 15-23 as follows:

In this process, the image information about a low-magnification actual field ~~((mi, mj)~~ (mi, nj) is loaded from the memory 23, a threshold is set in the brightness information indicated by the image information for determination of the presence/absence of a sample image, the initial position in which the high-powered objective lens conversion pixel size section is checked is set, etc.

Please amend the paragraph at page 32, line 22 to page 33, line 1 as follows:

~~if~~ If it is determined that the check has been completed on all low-powered objective lens actual field data (0, 0) ~ (m, n) (YES in S311), then the objective lens is switched into a high-powered objective lens (S312).

Please amend the paragraph at page 49, line 25 to page 50, line 6 as follows:

In the above-mentioned first through third ~~embodiment~~ embodiments, a wide-angle field and high-precision image can be efficiently generated. However, although a wide-angle field and high-precision image can be ~~efficient~~ efficiently generated, the efficient generation of an image cannot be appreciated unless the image can be efficiently observed.